

Industrial Chemicals Group  
Diamond Shamrock Corporation  
351 Phelps Court  
P.O. Box 2300  
Irving, Texas 75061  
214 /659-7000



## Diamond Shamrock

**ORANGE COUNTY CHEMICAL CO.**  
Industrial Chemicals  
1230 E. ST. GERTRUDE  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92707

### Material Safety Data Sheet

May 24, 1983

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Anhydrous Potassium Carbonate is a white, dustless, dense, free-flowing granular product.

#### Potassium Carbonate - Dense Granular

2 Moderate Health Hazard

0 Noncombustible

0 Nonreactive

Ratings based upon NIOSH "Identification System for Occupationally Hazardous Materials" (1974)

#### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

PROPER SHIPPING NAME: Not Regulated

HAZARD CLASS: Not Regulated

#### I PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Manufacturer's Name

DIAMOND SHAMROCK CORPORATION

Regular Telephone No. Contact Local Sales Office

Emergency Telephone No. 214/357-7070

Address

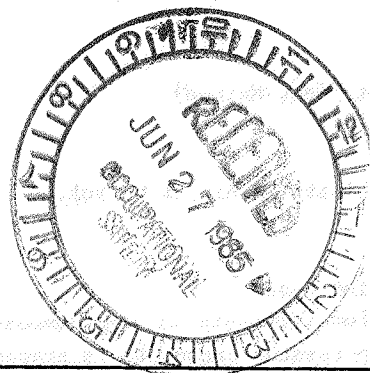
Industrial Chemicals Technical Center  
P.O. Box 191  
Painesville, Ohio 44077

NEW NUMBER: (713) 478-2198

Product Name

Potassium Carbonate - Dense Granular

Synonyms

Pot Carb; Potash; Pearlash;  $K_2CO_3$ 

#### II HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

Material or Component	CAS No. <sup>+</sup>	%	Hazard Data
Potassium Carbonate	584-08-7	100	PEL* = None

<sup>+</sup>Chemical Abstract Service Number  
\*OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit

CA-MSDS-5982

All information recommendations and suggestions appearing herein concerning our product are based upon tests and data believed to be reliable, however, it is the user's responsibility to determine the safety, toxicity and suitability for his own use of the product described herein. Since the actual use by others is beyond our control, no guarantee, expressed or implied, is made by Diamond Shamrock Corporation as to the effects of such use, the results to be obtained, or the safety and toxicity of the product nor does Diamond Shamrock Corporation assume any liability arising out of use, by others, of the product referred to herein. Nor is the information herein to be construed as absolutely complete since additional information may be necessary or desirable when particular or exceptional conditions or circumstances exist or because of applicable laws or government regulations.

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III PHYSICAL DATA

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Boiling Point, 760 mm Hg  
Not Applicable

Melting Point  
891°C (1635°F)

Freezing Point  
Not Applicable

Specific Gravity ( $H_2O=1$ )  
2.428 @ 19°C

Vapor Pressure  
Not Available

Vapor Density (Air=1)  
Not Available

Solubility in  $H_2O$ , % by Wt.  
100%

% Volatiles by Vol.  
Not Volatile

Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate=1)  
Not Applicable

Appearance and Odor  
White, granular,  
free-flowing with  
no distinct odor

Density at 20°C:  
Not Available

pH  
0.02 moles/liter  
has pH 11.0

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IV FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

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## DEVELOP EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Flash Point (Test Method)  
None

Autoignition Temperature  
Not Combustible

Flammable Limits in Air, % by Vol.  
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Lower  
Not Combustible

Upper  
Not Combustible

## Extinguishing Media

Potassium Carbonate is not combustible. Use water spray, dry chemical, or carbon dioxide in areas where potassium carbonate is stored.

## Special Fire Fighting Procedures

Pressure-demand self-contained breathing apparatus should be provided for fire fighters in buildings or confined areas where potassium carbonate is stored.

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazard  
None

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**V HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION**

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**Health Hazard Data**

Potassium Carbonate: Acute Oral LD<sub>50</sub> = 1870 mg/kg (rat)

**Routes of Exposure****Inhalation**

Airborne concentrations of dust, mist, or spray may cause damage to the upper respiratory tract and even to the lung tissue proper which could produce chemical pneumonia, depending upon severity of exposure.

**Skin Contact**

Moderately irritating. May cause superficial tissue destruction on prolonged or repeated contact.

**Skin Absorption**

See "Skin Contact" above.

**Eye Contact**

Severely irritating and may cause tissue destruction if not promptly treated.

**Ingestion**

May be severely irritating to the mucous membranes of the mouth, throat, esophagus, and stomach depending upon quantity ingested.

**Effects of Overexposure****Acute Overexposure**

May be severely irritating to all body tissue with which it comes in contact. Tissue destruction may follow if not properly treated.

**Chronic Overexposure**

The chronic local effect may consist of multiple areas of superficial destruction of the skin or of primary irritant dermatitis. Similarly, inhalation of dust, spray, or mist may result in varying degrees of irritation or damage to the respiratory tract tissues and an increased susceptibility to respiratory illness.

**Emergency and First Aid Procedures****Eyes:**

OBJECT IS TO FLUSH MATERIAL OUT IMMEDIATELY THEN SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION. IMMEDIATELY flush eyes with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes holding lids apart to ensure flushing of the entire surface. Washing eyes within 1 minute is essential to achieve maximum effectiveness. Seek medical attention immediately.

**Skin:**

Wash contaminated areas with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and footwear and wash clothing before reuse. Discard footwear which cannot be decontaminated. Seek medical attention immediately.

**Inhalation:**

Get person out of contaminated area to fresh air. If breathing has stopped, resuscitate and administer oxygen if readily available. Seek medical attention immediately.

## Ingestion:

NEVER give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. If swallowed, DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. Give large quantities of water. If available, give several glasses of milk. If vomiting occurs spontaneously, keep airway clear. Seek medical attention immediately.

## Notes to Physician

None

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VI REACTIVITY DATA

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## Conditions Contributing to Instability

Under normal conditions, the material is stable.

## Incompatibility

Avoid simultaneous presence of Potassium Carbonate and lime dust (CaO). The combination of these chemicals in the presence of water or perspiration will cause the formation of irritating caustic potash (KOH).

## Hazardous Decomposition Products

None

## Conditions Contributing to Hazardous Polymerization

Material is not known to polymerize.

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VII SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURES

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## DEVELOP SPILL PLAN

## Steps to be Taken if Material is Released or Spilled

Clean up spills immediately by sweeping or shoveling up the material. The spill area should then be flushed with water. All rinsate should be removed and placed in approved containers to await proper treatment or disposal. Spills on areas other than pavement, e.g., dirt or sand, may be handled by removing the affected soils and placing in approved containers. Persons performing clean-up work should wear adequate personal protective equipment and clothing.

## Waste Disposal Method

The materials resulting from clean-up operations may be hazardous wastes and therefore, subject to specific regulations. Package, store, transport, and dispose of all clean-up materials and any contaminated equipment in accordance with all applicable Federal, State, and local health and environmental regulations. Shipments of waste materials may be subject to manifesting requirements per applicable regulations. Appropriate disposal will depend on the nature of each waste material and should be performed by competent and properly permitted contractors. Ensure that all responsible Federal, State, and local agencies receive proper notification of spill and disposal of waste.

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## VIII INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE CONTROL MEASURES

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### Ventilation Requirements

Work in well-ventilated areas. Where engineering controls are not feasible, use adequate local exhaust ventilation.

### Specific Personal Protective Equipment

#### Respiratory (Specify in Detail)

Use a NIOSH/MSHA approved respirator following manufacturer's recommendations.

#### Eye

Face shield and goggles or chemical goggles should be worn.

#### Gloves

Gloves should be worn.

#### Other Clothing and Equipment

Standard work clothing. Chemically-resistant safety shoes. Wash contaminated clothing with soap and water and dry before reuse.

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## IX SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

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### Precautionary Statements

#### WARNING!

CAUSES IRRITATION.

Avoid contact with eyes, skin, and clothing.

Avoid breathing dust, mist, or spray.

Use with adequate ventilation and employ respiratory protection when exposure to dust, mist, or spray is possible.

Wear chemical splash goggles, rubber gloves, and protective clothing when handling.

Wash thoroughly after handling.

Avoid contact with lime dust (CaO) to prevent formation of irritating Caustic Potash (KOH).

Keep container closed and dry.

### First Aid:

#### In case of contact:

**For eyes:** Immediately flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes holding eyelids apart to ensure flushing of entire eye surface. **Seek medical attention.**

**For skin:** Wash contaminated area with plenty of water. Remove contaminated clothing and footwear. Wash clothing before reuse and discard footwear which cannot be decontaminated. **Seek medical attention.**

**If swallowed:** DO NOT induce vomiting. Give large quantities of water. If available, give several glasses of milk. If vomiting occurs spontaneously, keep airway clear. **Seek medical attention.**

**If inhaled:** Remove person to fresh air. If irritation persists, **seek medical attention.**

In Case of Spill or Leak: Stop leaks. Spills, after containment, should be shoveled up and removed to chemical waste area or removed by vacuum truck, if liquid. Flush spill area with large amount of water and dispose of wash water according to Federal, State and local regulation.

#### For Industrial Use Only

#### Other Handling and Storage Requirements

#### STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

##### Storage

Since Potassium Carbonate is very hygroscopic, the best possible storage conditions should be provided. Damp floors, leaking, and moist storage conditions must be avoided. Moisture absorption will cause lumping of Potassium Carbonate and reduction in alkalinity. Use on 'first-in, first-out' basis.

##### Disposal

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